



SR0146

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of James Y. Peoples of Chicago, who passed away on April 6, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, James Y. Peoples was born June 1, 1932 in Snowhill, Alabama; at the age of six, James and his family relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, where he attended elementary and high school; James met the love of his life, Dorothy Sneed, in Chicago and they were married June 22, 1963; and

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WHEREAS, James Peoples was a long time member of Chatham-Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, where he served as an Elder, Treasurer, Deacon, and a member of the Men's Council; he loved his church, his church family, and his pastor; and

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WHEREAS, James Peoples earned his Bachelors degree (Health and Physical Education) at Kentucky State University, obtained his Master's Degree in Education from DePaul University in Chicago, and his Doctorate in Administration and Supervision from Highland University in Athens, Tennessee; he also received certificates in Counseling and Guidance, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counseling, School Counseling, and School Service Personnel; and

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1 WHEREAS, In July of 1987 James Peoples was named principal
2 of Hillcrest High School, the first African American principal
3 in that district; he had previously been employed for 15 years
4 in the district as an administrator at Hillcrest High School;
5 he also taught and was a football coach at Marshall High School
6 in Chicago and was a District Guidance Counselor at West
7 Harvey/Dixmoor School District #147 in Harvey; and

8 WHEREAS, His academic and professional awards include:
9 Distinguished Alumni, Kentucky State University (KSU); Trail
10 Blazer Award, KSU; 100 Outstanding Alumni, KSU; Outstanding
11 Community Leader and Noteworthy American; Who's Who in the
12 Midwest; and National Association for Equality in Educational
13 Opportunity in Higher Education; he served as President of the
14 KSU Foundation; he was a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi
15 Fraternity, Inc., and served as Polemarch in 1979; he was a
16 life member of the KSU Alumni Association; and he was a Board
17 Member of the Coalition For Improved Education in South Shore
18 (CIESS); and

19 WHEREAS, Over 33 years ago, his best friend, Dr. C. Vincent
20 Bakeman, asked him to join the Human Resources Development
21 Institute, Inc. (HRDI) Board of Directors, and most recently he
22 was Treasurer of the Board; he served on the HRD Foundation as
23 its President; since he joined the Board of Directors, HRDI has
24 grown tremendously, serving over 18,000 clients per year with

1 programs in seven states; and

2 WHEREAS, His father and two siblings, Lela Dillard and
3 Robert Peoples preceded him in death; and

4 WHEREAS, James Peoples leaves to cherish his memories, his
5 loving wife, Dorothy; his son, Cedric (Vernetta); one
6 granddaughter, Bethany; his mother, Virginia; his sisters,
7 Louise Thomas, Francis Muldrew, and Janet Tilman; his brother,
8 Raymond Peoples (Linda); his sister-in-laws, Addie M. Harrell
9 and Louise Lott; his aunt, Erska Prude; his uncle, David Davis
10 (Estelle); Mary Davis; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins,
11 friends, and loved ones; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
14 his family and friends, the passing of James Y. Peoples; and be
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of James Y. Peoples as a symbol of our
18 sympathy.